(b) the break-up of the present stock, variety-wise;

(c) whehter Government have recently issued any guidelines to the Corporation in regard to release of foodgrains; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what are the reasons for non-availability of these cereals from Fair Price Shops; and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure availability of foodgrains to consumers in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) As on 1-11-91(the stocks of foodrains in the Central Pool were as follows:—

	(Million tonnes)
Rice	6.89
Wheat	7.32
Coarsegrains	N egligible
Total	14.21

(c) The Food Corporation of India released foodgrains (Rice @ Wheat) to the various States/Union Territories for Public Distribution System on the basis or allocation orders issued by the Government on a month to month basis. In addition Food Corporation of India has been permitted to sell 3 lakh tonnes of rice and 6 lakh tonnes of wheat in the open market.

(d) Foodgrains (wheat and rice) for distribution through the Public Distribution System (P.D.S.) are released by Central Government to State Governments/Union Territories Administrations. Its distribution within their States/Union Territories through Fair Price Shops is the responsibility of the respective State Government/Union Territories Administrations.

Supply of Foodgrains by F.C.I. for PDS in Andhra Pradesh

3384. SHRI M. M. HASHIM: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of foodgrains supplied by the F.C.I. for the Public Distribution System in Andhra Pradesh during 1990-91;

(b) whether it is a fact that grains of inferior quality are being supplied by the F.C.I.; and

(c) if so what steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) A quantity of 14.07 lakh tonnes of rice and 1.14 lakh tonnes of wheat has been supplied to Andhra Pradesh during 1990-91 for their Public Distribution System.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Reduction in the buffer stock of foodgrains

3385. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank and other international financial agencies have suggested a reduction in the buffer stocks of foodgrains;

(b) whether Government have issued any instructions to the Food Corporation of India in this regard; and

(c) what are the targets of procurement by the Corporation for different foodgrains for the present Kharif and coming Rabi crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) There is no specific recommendation in this regard from the World Bank or other multi-lateral financial agencies such as IMF, IFAD and ADB.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Since the procurement of foodgrains (wheat, paddy and coarsegrains) under the price support operations by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) is totally voluntary and collection of levy rice from millers is based on percentage of production, it is not practicable to fix any targets for procurement of Foodgrains by F.C.I.